

Michigan Higher Education Student Loan Authority (MHESLA)  
Offering Premier Services and Borrower Benefits

# MHESLA Facts

## DEFERMENT AND FORBEARANCE

A **deferment** or **forbearance** is a way of postponing federal student loan payments.

Reasons to use a deferment\*

Economic Hardship  
Job Loss  
Rehabilitation Training Program  
Graduate Fellowship  
Military  
Returning to school at least half-time

*Interest is paid by the federal government on Federal Subsidized Loans and Federal Consolidation Loans (subsidized portions) during a deferment.*

Reasons to use a forbearance\*

Medical  
Lower federal loan payments  
Financial  
Not eligible for a deferment

*Whether you have a Stafford subsidized or unsubsidized loan(s), interest is charged during the forbearance. You may be required to make interest payments or add the interest to your principal balance (called capitalization).*

Contact your lender for details on these options. Sometimes just a telephone call to your lender will save you from a delinquency or a default. Protect your credit!

\*This is not an all-inclusive list of reasons for deferment or forbearance eligibility. Check with your lender.

[www.mistudentloans.com](http://www.mistudentloans.com)  
E-mail: [MHESLA@michigan.gov](mailto:MHESLA@michigan.gov)  
Toll free: 1-888-643-7521